CANADIAN Film Weekly
VOICE of the CANADIAN MOTION PICTURE INDUSTRY

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Paramount Shoots 20 in 1946

Production Schedule Requires Spending of $32 Millions

Paramount Pictures will turn out 20 productions in 1946, all top calibre films with planned budgets totalling $32,000,000, studio production chief Henry Ginsberg announces. Ginsberg said that some 23 stories are now in active preparation for next year's shooting and that several new story purchases await assignment to writers. Several of the new films will be in Technicolor.

With a backlog of 20 pictures either completed, editing or now before the cameras, the studio head said Paramount's program is 16 months ahead of schedule and that pre-production activities are heavier than at any time

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Vets Return to Dominion Sound

A number of staff members of Dominion Sound Equipments Limited have returned to work after serving in various branches of the armed services during the war, some of them in battle theatres.

D. E. Daniel of Winnipeg, who

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Nip-and-Tuck for Academy Award

While the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences awards aren't made until March 7, filmites are already picking the likely winners in the Oscar race. Academy rules stipulate that eligible pictures must show in the Los Angeles area before Decem-

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NFB Men Quit For Film Slide Biz

Lionel Reid, head of the film slide division of the National Film Board, has resigned and will enter business for himself in Toronto.

Reid's partners are Jefferson Hurley and Noel Bates, both of whom quit government employment for the venture.

Hurley was public relations officer for the Department of National Health and Welfare and Bates was liaison officer for the NFB in its dealings with other departments. Reid, prior to joining the NFB, maintained his own art studios in Toronto.

Theatre Break-in

Lou Rosefield's Westdale Theatre, Hamilton, was recently broken into for the second time and a considerable sum of money taken.

Fairley Acquires Muskoka Hotel

Gordon D. (Doug) Fairley, veteran Canadian theatre man, has acquired control of the extensive holdings of Major Maclean, for many years the leading business figure in Muskoka, Ontario's world-famed holiday paradise, it became public last week.

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20th-Fox Has 4 In 'First Ten'

"Wilson," the Darryl F. Zanuck production for 20th Century-Fox which brought the life and times of the 27th president of the United States to the screen, has been rated the top feature release of 1945 by critics and reviewers polled by The Film Daily,

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FPCC Welcomes 24 To 25-Yr. Club

Twenty-four veteran employees of Famous Players will become members of the 25-Year Club at the second annual meeting of that organization this month.

This year three dinners will be held. The first will be for Ontario members in the King Edward Hotel, Toronto, on January 24th; the second in the Royal Alexandra Hotel, Winnipeg on January 28th, and the third in the Hotel Vancouver in Vancouver on January 30th. J. J. Fitzgibbons and R. W. Bolstad will preside at all sessions.

Honored at the Toronto dinner will be Charlie Querrie, manager of the Palace Theatre, Toronto, since its opening in February, 1921; Wallace Brown, projectionist at the Palace, Toronto; Tommy Callendar, assistant manager

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'San Antonio' Sets Quebec Records

Opening of the Warner Brothers picture "San Antonio" at the Empire Theatre, Quebec City, recently broke the house's long-established opening day record. It was the movie's premiere Canadian showing.

This Technicolor Errol Flynn starrer beat such top Warner Brothers pictures as "Casablanca," "This Is The Army" and "Rhapsody In Blue."

Gregory-Odeon Suit Ended Mutually

The legal action of Mrs. Jean Gregory against Andwell Theatres Limited and Paul L. Nathanson, president of Odeon Theatres of Canada, for $55,000 damages was dismissed without costs in Osgoode Hall last week by consent of the parties involved.

Mrs. Gregory had asked dissolution of what she claimed was a partnership agreement between herself and Andwell Theatres calling for the joint operation of three Hamilton theatres. She alleged that Andwell Theatres was not incorporated under the laws of Ontario as a company and that she had unwittingly made an agreement with a non-existent firm, believing it to be a legitimate organization.

Part of the original action was a demand that the partnership

(Continued on Page 2)

Nolan Said Selling New Theatre

Negotiations for the sale of the Paris Theatre at Gatineau Point, Ontario, near Ottawa, are almost completed. Ambrose Nolan of Ottawa, who operated theatres in the Ottawa area for his father, the late P. J. Nolan, a former mayor, and later for himself, is the present owner of the Paris. Prospective purchaser is Norman Wolfe, Ottawa.

The theatre, opened only a few months ago, was built by Nolan, who is now asking $25,000 for it.

WARNER BROTHERS IN OWN TORONTO BLDG. Warner Brothers Toronto branch and home offices will be moved to the company's own building at Carlton and Church Streets, Toronto, this weekend from 21 Dundas Square. New quarters were built from the ground up and are completely modern in every respect.

Gregory-Odeon Suit Ended

(Continued from Page 1)

agreement between Paul Nathanson and J. Arthur Rank for joint ownership of Canada's Odeon chain be produced in court, Mrs. Gregory having contended that Nathanson had sold out his interest in their partnership without notice to her.

This was granted by the Master of the Supreme Court of Ontario, Gordon Conant, but was overruled when Nathanson's appeal was found to be on proper grounds by Mr. Justice Hope.

Associated Expands Distrib Services

An expanded distribution service for Canada is under way at Associated Screen News, Ltd. with the establishment of a self-contained merchandising unit for the distribution of photographic products and audio-visual aids.

B. E. Norrish, president and managing director of the company, announced that Stuart S. Tait has been appointed general manager of Benograph, a division of ASN which will have branch offices in key Canadian cities.

To The Ladies

FPCC Welcomes 24 To 25-Yr. Club

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of the statistical and film contract department at the head office, who was Famous Players' first office boy; Bill Dineen, stage manager and electrician at the Tivoli Theatre, Toronto; Walter Hoffmann, projectionist at Loew's Theatre, Montreal; Stanley Grigg, for 25 years in the booth at the Strand Theatre, Hamilton; Robert Knevels, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Windsor, and Sam Mantle, manager of the Royal Theatre, Guelph. A veteran of two wars, Sam was an accountant at head office up until the time he enlisted in the RCAF. He switched to management upon receiving his discharge.

Ernie Moule's theatre, the Capitol, Brantford, will have the largest representation. Ernie becomes a member of the 25-Year Club on January 24th and with him will be honored the following members of his staff who have been with him for a quarter-century; Thomas W. Johnston, assistant manager; Mrs. Florence Ginn, matron, who started as an usherette; Miss Christina Aulseybrook, who also was one of Ernie's usherettes and is now cashier.

Guests of honor at the Winnipeg dinner will include Mrs. Jessie Latus of the Capitol Theatre, Calgary, who started as matron and relief cashier the day the theatre opened and has been on the job ever since; Fred Tickell, manager of the Capitol Theatre, Fort William, who started his career as usher in Calgary with the opening of the Capitol Theatre; and two members of the staff of the Capitol Theatre, Winnipeg — Alfred Wishart, projectionist for the past 25 years and Norman Code, stage manager, who has been with the company since 1920. Regina has two new members of the Club — Howard Rennebohm and Harry R. Gordon. Both started in the booth when the Capitol, Regina, opened in 1921.

At the Vancouver dinner, the guests of honor will include Ivor Ackery, manager of the Orpheum Theatre, Vancouver, who began his career in show business as an usher in the Capitol, Vancouver; Richard A. Jones, a projectionist since 1906 and now in the Dominion Theatre, Victoria; John C. Smith, projectionist in the Strand Theatre, Vancouver; Robert G. Pollock from the booth of the Capitol Theatre, Vancouver, and Vic Armand, supervisor of maintenance and construction for Famous Players' western division. Vic also handles purchasing and labor relations. Fred Broadbent, projectionist in the Capitol Theatre, Edmonton, will be in Vancouver at the time of the dinner and will be made a member of the club there instead of in Winnipeg.

Each member of the 25-Year Club will receive from the hands of Mr. Fitzgibbons a jeweled lapel pin of membership; choice of a $100 Victory Bond or an inscribed watch; a certificate of appreciation and will be given, in addition, an extra two weeks' vacation with pay.

Guests at the dinners will be the 34 charter members of the club with their wives, as well as the wives of the new members.

Attending the dinners to pay tribute to their fellow-employees will be the district managers and other executives of the company, and a part of the ceremony will be the showing of the film record made last year of the inauguration of Famous Players' 25-Year Club.

Seven MGM Rate In Gallup 'Ten'

"The Valley of Decision" was chosen as the most popular picture of 1945 and Bing Crosby and Greer Garson were voted the most popular screen stars, according to Dr. George Gallup's Audience Research Poll which surveyed a cross-section of America's filmgoers.

This is the second year in succession that these two stars have won top honors in the poll. Other findings of the Gallup Poll on movies appear in Photoplay Magazine's February issue.

Metro - Goldwyn - Mayer placed seven pictures in the top ten in the patrons' preference with "Valley of Decision," "Anchors Aweigh," "Thirty Seconds Over Tokyo" placing one-two-three. Other MGM films in the highest group were "Meet Me in St. Louis," "National Velvet," "Thrill of a Romance" and "Son of Lassie."

Warner Brothers had two in the running with "God Is My Co-Pilot" and "Hollywood Canteen." Columbia's "Song to Remember" placed fourth in the top ten.

The five most popular actresses, determined by the Audience Research Poll were Ingrid Bergman, Bette Davis, Judy Garland, Greer Garson and Betty Grable. The five most popular actors were Bing Crosby, Humphrey Bogart, Cary Grant, Bob Hope and Spencer Tracy.

Gregory Peck was picked as the male star who gained most in popularity in 1945 and Margaret O'Brien and Lauren Bacall were tied for that honor among the female stars.

The polls conducted for the Photoplay Magazine Gold Medal Awards are taken throughout the year among movie-goers in all age, income and population groups.

Paramount 1946 Schedule Is 20

(Continued from Page 1)

in many years. Already completed pictures are sufficient to more than cover all next season's release requirements.

In preparation for next year, the studio has created a fund of outstanding best-selling novels, originals and successful plays and has signed several new writers.

Recently the studio acquired a number of properties, including the national best seller, "The Gauntlet," by James Street, "The Ambassador's Wife," "The Captain Fled," "Tawny," "The Night Has a Thousand Eyes," "Hell and High Water," "Abigail, Dear Heart," "Blaze of Noon," "Moonrise," "The Wayfarers," "Isn't It Romantic" and "Sentimental Journey." The other outstanding stories on the schedule are "Strangers in Love," "My Favorite Brunette," "Golden Earrings," "Oh Brother," "Hector" and several untitled originals. Cecil B. DeMille is now preparing "The Unconquered," by Neil Swanson, with production in Technicolor scheduled to start next May.

Ginsberg's announcement does not cover films made for Paramount release by independent producers such as Hal Wallis Productions or by William Pine and William Thomas.

"The Lost Weekend," which has broken box office records in a number of American theatres, is scheduled to open in Toronto's Shea's Theatre on February 1st. "Stork Club," a current release starring Betty Hutton and Barry Fitzgerald, was a holdover at that theatre. Another Paramount hit, "Hold That Blonde," with Eddie Bracken and Veronica Lake, was a holdover on concurrent runs at the Tivoli and Eglinton theatres, Toronto.

Music and O'Neill

June Allyson and Ray McDonald will star in a musical version of Eugene O'Neill's play, "Ah, Wilderness," for MGM.

THE PICK OF THE PICTURES

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REVIEWS INFORMATION RATINGS

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Men in Her Diary

with Peggy Ryan, Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton

Universal 73 Mins.

ATTRACTIVE COMEDY HAS ENOUGH AMUSING STUFF TO GET OKAY OF THE AVERAGE FILMGOER.

Attractively produced by Chas. Barton, who also directed the film, although not with complete success, "Men in Her Diary" is comedy entertainment spiked with enough laughs to win it the approval of the average filmgoer, who will not be bothered too much by the fact that the whole thing is very much of a fabrication that doesn't always stand the test of reason.

The film, possessing some elegant settings, has a script by F. Hugh Herbert and Elwood Ullman that is good fun in spots, especially when Alan Mowbray is around. The story moves along with a good deal of liveliness that is one of the film's biggest assets.

The yarn relates how Peggy Ryan, Jon Hall's love-starved little secretary, unwittingly breaks up the marriage of her boss and Louise Allbritton when the latter comes across the girl's diary in which she has entered an imaginary romance between herself and Hall. All is straightened out at the finish.

Miss Ryan does reasonably well in a role that is on the serious side. Hall, Miss Allbritton and Virginia Grey as a vamp handle routine roles acceptably.

CAST: Peggy Ryan, Jon Hall, Louise Allbritton, Ernest Truex, Virginia Grey, William Terry, Alan Mowbray, Eric Blore, Samuel S. Hinds, Sig Ruman, Addison Richards, Lorraine Miller, Robin Raymond, Minerva Urecal, Arthur Loft, Vivian Austin, Lorin Baker.

CREDITS: Executive Producer, Howard Welsch; Associate Producer, Charles Barton; Screenplay, F. Hugh Herbert, Elwood Ullman; Adaptation, Lester Cole; Based on story by Kerry Shaw; Cameraman, Paul Ivano; Musical Score, Milton Rosen; Musical Director, Milton Rosen; Art Directors, John B. Goodman, Richard H. Riedel; Sound Director, Bernard B. Brown; Set Decorators, Russell A. Gausman, E. R. Robinson; Film Editor, Paul Landres; Dance Director, Carlos Romero.

DIRECTION, Fair. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

Thief Steals Bars, Gets 2½ Years

Thieves broke into the Century Theatre, Hamilton, one night last week and stole 600 bars from the candy machine, manager Lloyd Gurr reports. One of the culprits, caught next day, was sentenced to Kingston Penitentiary for 2½ years.

Bells of Rosarita

with Roy Rogers

Republic 68 Mins.

ROY ROGERS' LATEST MUSICAL WESTERN SHOULD CLICK EASILY WITH HIS ADMIRERS.

"Bells of Rosarita" is a worthy attraction despite the fact it doesn't rate with the best of the Roy Rogers' singing westerns. The weak story is more than offset by the ample musical content, vigorous action, pictorial appeal, the easy-going spirit of the production and good ensemble acting.

The film's box office prospects are bolstered by the presence of a group of "guest stars" including Wild Bill Elliott, Allan Lane, Donald Barry, Robert Livingston and Sunset Carson. Republic has raided its western roster to insure the film's drawing power.

Garnished with no less than nine musical numbers and offering a bit of circus atmosphere, the picture revolves about the quest for a receipt for the payment of a loan made by Grant Withers to Dale Evans' late father. Withers, on the pretext the loan was never repaid, is determined to seize the circus and the ranch left by Miss Evans' dad. It is Rogers, cast as a western star, who saves the day for Miss Evans with the help of his buddies.

Eddy White gave the film a nice production, Frank McDonald supplying competent direction.

CAST: Roy Rogers, George "Gabby" Hayes, Dale Evans, Wild Bill Elliott, Allan Lane, Donald Barry, Robert Livingston, Sunset Carson, Adele Mara, Grant Withers, Janet Martin, Addison Richards, Roy Bancroft, Robert Mitchell Boy Choir

CREDITS: Associate Producer, Eddy White; Director, Frank McDonald; Screenplay, Jack Townley; Cameraman, Ernest Miller; Musical Director, Morton Scott; Musical Score, Joseph Dubin; Film Editor, Arthur Roberts; Sound, Fred Stahl; Art Director, Hilyard Brown.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

New BC House

Suburban Theatres Ltd. has announced plans for the construction of an 850-seat theatre in Vancouver suburbs at a cost of $100,000.

Allotment Wives

with Kay Francis, Paul Kelly and Otto Kruger

Monogram 80 Mins.

WELL PLAYED AND DIRECTED EXPLOITATION PICTURE SHOULD CREATE B. O. INTEREST.

Here is a good exploitation picture, exposing persons who cash in on allotments and insurance policies left to wives by servicemen.

Kay Francis, who plays one of the starring roles, also shares producer credit with Jeffrey Bernerd. Paul Kelly and Kruger are co-stars. William Nigh turned in a good job of direction.

Kay, owner of a beauty shop and sponsor of a canteen, heads a crime ring that employs girls to marry servicemen for their allotments and as their insurance beneficiaries. Gertrude Michael, who met Kay in a reform school, decides to blackmail her after the latter turns her over to the police as a bigamist preying on soldiers.

Gertrude beats the charge, and with Bernard Nedell, kidnaps Kay's daughter, Teala Loring. Paul Kelly, an investigator for the Office of Dependent Benefits, USA, gains the evidence against Kay, and when her bullet misses Paul, Paul's assistant, Anthony Warde, shoots Kay. Of course, Gertrude and Nedell are also brought to justice.

CAST: Kay Francis, Paul Kelly, Otto Kruger, Gertrude Michael, Teala Loring, Bernard Nedell, Anthony Warde, Jonathan Hale, Selmer Jackson, Evelyn Eaton, Pierre Watkin, Marcelle Corday, Reid Kilpatrick, Matty Fain, Terry Frost, Doris Lloyd, Elizabeth Wright, Sarah Edwards, John Elliott.

CREDITS: Producers, Jeffrey Bernerd and Kay Francis; Director, William Nigh; Author, Sidney Sutherland; Cameraman, Harry Neumann; Screenplay, Harvey N. Gates and William Austin; Art Director, Dave Milton.

DIRECTION, Good. PHOTOGRAPHY, Good.

New Theatre

Junior Chamber of Commerce of Surrey, BC, has made plans to construct a $15,000 theatre in Cloverdale with a seating capacity of 450.

GORDON D. FAIRLEY

Well-known Ontario theatre man, who has acquired control of the interests of Major Maclean, which include the Royal Muskoka Hotel and a number of other enterprises.

Bloordale, Toronto Back to Garalick

The Bloordale Theatre, Toronto, 694-seat house, now being operated by Goldhar and Soloway, will come under the supervision of its owners, Harry Garalick and David Bernholtz, when the present lease expires on August 31st, 1946. Goldhar and Soloway have operated the Bloordale since 1936.

Garalick is also interested in the College, Brantford.

Bob Riskin to Make Three Pictures

Robert Riskin Productions, Inc. will start production on three major pictures for release by RKO, at an estimated cost of $5,000,000. This new affiliation adds to the independent output being produced on the RKO lot by such companies as Leo McCarey Rainbow Productions, Frank Ross Productions, and the Capra organization, Liberty Films, Inc.

Riskin, former chief of the OWI overseas motion picture division, was part of the Academy Award-winning director-writer team of Capra and Riskin. The newly-formed company consists of Fay Wray Riskin, vice-president; former Judge Lester Roth, secretary; William S. Holman, former studio manager for RKO, treasurer and general manager.

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HYE BOSSIN, Managing Editor

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ALLURING...yet too anxious to help him forget his beloved wife...and his search for her murderer...the man he'd trailed to Buenos Aires.

Produced by ADRIAN SCOTT
Directed by EDWARD DMYTRYK
Screen Play by JOHN PAXTON

Fairley Acquires Muskoka Hotel

(Continued from Page 1)

Fairley, who owns the Brock Theatre, Niagara, and is interested in several others, intends, however, to retain and expand his interests in motion picture exhibition.

Associated in the venture are a group of Toronto's leading business men, although sole control belongs to Fairley.

Under the deal the Royal Muskoka Hotel, Muskoka's leading hostelry, comes to Fairley, who will spend $250,000 to rebuild and modernize it. Also under his control will be the other Muskoka interests of Major Maclean, among them the fleet of five boats, which comprises a steamship line, wharves in the leading towns, a freight franchise, a bus line and a natural park.

It is Fairley's intention to make the Royal Muskoka the finest hotel in the area, to which come thousands of visitors from many parts of the world, particularly the United States. A private motion picture theatre will be erected on the grounds.

Two years ago Fairley purchased Pow-Wow Point Lodge in the Lake of Bays district, remodelled it and turned it into the most popular resort hotel there.

Fairley entered theatre business more than 20 years ago and still holds a projectionist's license. In the past he has been connected with Foto-Nite as its chief representative, and he was one of the leading executives of Hanson Theatres.

Jolley Addresses Lions Clubs

Arch H. Jolley, secretary of MPTAO, addressed the Lions Clubs of Hamilton and Aurora, Ontario, on succeeding days last week.

Buy Property For $100,000 House

The Midland Operating Company, Midland, Ontario, has purchased a site and just as soon as materials are available will start construction of a modern theatre at a cost of $100,000. Seating capacity will be more than 1,000 and plans now nearing completion call for the latest in equipment, air conditioning, seating and other features.

President Sam Fingold and company members H. C. D. Main and Ralph Dale are likely to put it up to the Chamber of Commerce to choose a name for the new theatre.

Observanda

Someone has purchased property on Bloor, near Bay, as a theatre site . . . John Grierson is due back at the end of the month . . . Henry Morton was in town last week . . . Frank Owens, New Brunswick censor, and Steve Doane, Nova Scotia censor, met with O. J. Silverthorne, Ontario, in Toronto recently. Just social — they were passing through . . . A petition asking for the repeal of the midnight show ban was placed before the Toronto Police Commission and rejected . . . Herb Allen's house was robbed recently . . . Lorne Green has opened a radio school at the RCA studios and CKEY . . . Six stickup guys grabbed a couple of hundred dollars out of the safe of the Palace, Montreal, and missed $10,000 when a patrol policeman surprised them into a quick departure.

Tall Timber

Jack's famous beanstalk was just a shrub from a climbing standpoint compared with the tree advertised by the Embassy, Toronto, on its marquee — A Tree Grows in Brooklyn and Halfway to Heaven.

Nominations Open

Suggestion for a prize contest comes via the mail. "What group of workers," we have been asked to ask, "are the most overpaid and underbrained in the industry?" This would probably start the greatest controversy ever, with writers and directors nominating producers and vice-versa. Producers, say the snides, are non-producers. As for exhibition and distribution, I am maintaining a discreet silence, refusing to do any fool-rushing or angel-treading.

Quoted Dialogue

"Kin I go to the movies?"
"Go to the movies what?"
"Go to the movies, please."
"Please what?"
"Please, mother."
"Please, mother what?"
"Please, mother dear."
"Hell, no, child. You've been this week already."

Yes Sir!

Talking with a friend about the difficulties of daily living with some members of our esteemed industry, he said philosophically "If you can't live without trouble, you live with it."

Pinnacle

I went for a walk to the top of the Imperial balcony after hours, stopping just below the projection rest where roosts Tommy Marsden, Robby Robinson et al.

That mountainside of empty seats rolling away towards the screen made me think of the Alps and the idea of using a St. Bernard to find lost patrons.

A scene formed in my mind of Manager Tom Daley standing there and shouting to the boys in the booth: "If you see a St. Bernard around here, give him a drink and send him back. He's lost!"

Proverbiage

"Patience may be its own reward," a cynic said, "but you can be the biggest heel in the world and still die rich."

No Change

Toronto paper, in reporting the new studios of Frank O'Byrne's Sales and Instructional Productions in the suburbs, referred to the fact that the building was at one time the town's best known dice joint.

Just one kind of shooting after another.

Well Said

Phil M. Daly reports in Film Daily that the gag of the day is: "In film biz, one doesn't rate these days unless he Ranks . . ."

Cruel Attitude

In a small-stake card game the other night one of the lads had been losing steadily until he had little hope of breaking even. He proposed several hands for large stakes but the others said no.

"Get out," they told him, "the way you got in."

Bitter

"I hear," an exhibitor told a distributor scornfully the other day during a renewal of the age-old battle, "that your next feature will be called 'Reap the Wild Exhibitor'."

Startler

Gabbing with Nat Taylor I pooh-poohed a certain possibility, pointing out that "It never happened before."

"So what?" he countered. "Thousands of people throughout the world die every day in the natural course of things who never died before."

C. G. JEFFREY

of Famous Players, who has received the Order of the Bronze Lion from the Netherlands government in recognition of his meritorious service with the Essex Scottish Regiment in the liberation of Holland. He was wounded in the fighting at Scheldt. Jeffrey joined the army as a private while an usher at the Capitol Theatre, Chatham, Ontario, and rose to the rank of captain. He has been made student manager at his old theatre.

Vets Return to Dominion Sound

(Continued from Page 1)

joined the RCAF early in 1941 and saw action in the United Kingdom, Middle East, France and Italy, has returned to work in the Winnipeg sales department. Before enlisting, Daniel was an installation and service engineer in Calgary and Winnipeg for the company. He joined the company in December, 1929, and is well known to exhibitors throughout the west.

C. C. James, Edmonton, who served with the RCAF in Britain, is presently at work as an installation and service engineer in Edmonton. He has a record of 16 years with the company.

Well known in eastern Canaian cities, G. T. New, who has spent five years with RCNVR, is now installation and service engineer in Vancouver. Before enlisting, he was doing similar work in Quebec.

G. M. Tittensor of Montreal, also an RCNVR veteran, has returned to special duties with Dominion Sound Equipments operating department in Montreal. He has been with the company since 1928.

Junior members of the firm who have returned from the services are J. H. Wanamaker, released from the RCAF, and D. K. Bedford and E. M. Fox, recently discharged from the RCNVR. They are employed in the merchandise department at the head office.

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20th-Fox Has 4 In 'First Ten'

(Continued from Page 1)

New York. The picture starred Alexander Knox of London, Ontario, in the title role. Henry King directed.

Twentieth Century-Fox made a killing in this year's poll, winning first, second and third in the critics' vote, "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" being runner-up for top spot followed by "Keys of the Kingdom." MGM's Greer Garson starrer "Valley of Decision" was in fourth place, only one vote behind "Keys."

Ex-Broadwayite Elia Kazan directed "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn" which starred Dorothy McGuire, Joan Blondell, James Dunn, Lloyd Nolan and Peggy Ann Garner. "Keys of the Kingdom" featured "find of the year" Gregory Peck, Thomas Mitchell and Vincent Price, directed by William Dieterle. Producer for "Valley of Decision" was Edwin H. Knopf; Tay Garnett directed, and a cast including Gregory Peck, Donald Crisp and Lionel Barrymore supported Greer Garson.

Columbia's romantic biography of Chopin, "A Song to Remember," produced by Louis F. Edelman, directed by Charles Vidor, with Paul Muni, Merle Oberon and Cornel Wilde in major roles, came fifth.

Sixth place went to "Laura," giving 20th-Fox four pictures in the first ten. Stars were Gene Tierney, Dana Andrews and Clifton Webb in this vehicle which Otto Preminger produced and directed. "The Story of GI Joe," the Lester Cowan-UA biography of the late Ernie Pyle, with Burgess Meredith playing the great war correspondent, finished seventh.

Warner Brothers' "The Corn Is Green," starring Bette Davis and introducing John Dall, emerged as the critics' eighth choice. It was produced by Jack Chertok and directed by Irving Rapper. Ninth and tenth places were taken by MGM pictures — "National Velvet" and "Anchors Aweigh" respectively. Mickey Rooney, Donald Crisp, Elizabeth Taylor and Anne Revere played in the first, produced by Pandro S. Berman and directed by Clarence Brown. "Anchors Aweigh," which presented Gene Kelly, Frank Sinatra, Kathryn Grayson and Jose Iturbi, was produced by Joseph Pasternak and directed by George Sidney.

Under the poll's rules only pictures released between November 1, 1944, and October 31, 1945, were eligible. Movies presented on a roadshow basis were not considered unless distributors thought there had been enough playdates to ensure a fair vote. This ruling kept "Wilson" out of the previous year's voting.

Although 145 features were nominated by producer-distributors for consideration by critics and commentators, the voters were not bound by this list and could vote for any picture released during the time limitations.

Basing the estimate on circulation figures and radio station audience ratings, it is believed that reviewers casting votes this year represent a reading and listening audience of 58,500,000.

One hundred and thirty-four pictures were given one or more votes by critics.

The next five runners-up to the first ten were, in order, "Our Vines Have Tender Grapes," "The House on 92nd Street," "Meet Me in Saint Louis," "A Bell for Adano" and "Rhapsody in Blue."

"Winners in previous polls were "Going My Way," 1944; "Random Harvest," 1943; "Mrs. Miniver," 1942; "Gone With The Wind," 1941; and "Rebecca," 1940.

Selling Coming Features

This interesting display to boost forthcoming pictures was created for the lobby of the Uptown Theatre, Toronto, by Stan Gosnell, manager of the house.

'Bell' Sets Record In Argentina

"For Whom the Bell Tolls," just released in Argentina after many months of censorship holdup, broke all house records in the Ambassador Theatre, Buenos Aires, in its first week. Gross was 202 per cent over house average and 40 per cent over previous highest gross. It was released without cuts.

Power Starts on 'Razor's Edge'

Tyrone Power, 20th Century-Fox star just released from the USA marine corps, in which he served as a lieutenant, is scheduled to start work in the leading role of W. Somerset Maugham's "Razor's Edge." Darryl F. Zanuck will personally produce the picture and Edmund Goulding will direct.

Nip-and-Tuck for Academy Award

(Continued from Page 1)

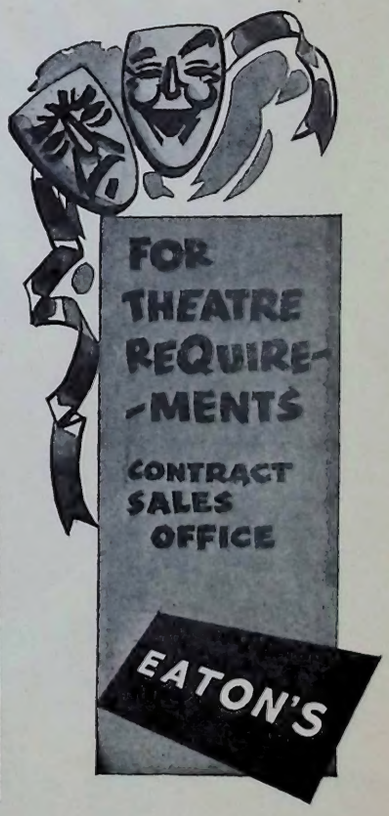
ber 31 and a number of companies rushed their contenders to the screens at the last minute.

Speculation places "The Lost Weekend" and "The Bells of St. Mary's" as neck-and-neck for first place. "Leave Her to Heaven," starring Gene Tierney, which 20th Century-Fox rushed to the screens late last month, has also become an important contender.

These pictures have not received general release in Canada yet. As has been the case in previous years, the booking jam in the industry here has pushed release of Academy Award winners into the year following their USA distribution.

High in the running for best acting are Joan Crawford for her role in "Mildred Pierce"; Greer Garson for "Valley of Decision"; Dorothy McGuire for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn"; and Bette Davis for "The Corn Is Green."

Male stars who rank among the award winners are Robert Montgomery for his part in "They Were Expendable"; Gregory Peck for "The Keys of the Kingdom"; Dick Powell for "Murder, My Sweet"; James Dunn for "A Tree Grows in Brooklyn"; John Garfield for "The Pride of the Marines"; and Robert Mitchum for "The Story of G.I. Joe."



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